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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Greece

DATE:

SUBJECT Soviet Ambassador Rodionov Approaches
General Plastiras

INFO. 10 February 1947

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SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN [REDACTED]

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- On the day following his return to Athens, Soviet Ambassador Rodionov again approached General Nicholas Plastiras in the utmost secrecy.

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NOTE: Report [REDACTED], distributed 27 August 1946, gives information on Rodionov's earlier approach to Plastiras.

- Rodionov launched into an anti-British tirade saying that the British were creating all the trouble in Greece and that this was the reason why they were unwilling to arm the Greek Army adequately enough to pacify the country. Rodionov insisted that Greece was doomed if the British continued their influence in the country. He argued that Greece's only salvation lay in the expulsion of the British. The Soviet Ambassador further stated that he had reliable information that the British actually did not propose to leave Greece in the foreseeable future.
- General Plastiras turned down Ambassador Rodionov's suggestion that the former lead a strong anti-British campaign in Greece. In doing so, Plastiras baldly asserted that if he led such a campaign, this would aid the Communists, who were at present damaging Greece. At the same time Plastiras reaffirmed Greece's desire for friendship with Russia and begged Rodionov not to support the KKE. Rodionov denied that Russia was supporting the Communists, and Plastiras replied that everyone certainly thought so.
- Plastiras agreed with Rodionov that the present government was most unsuitable as it did not inspire confidence.

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